

PROPOSED MEMORANDUM FROM NSCIC TO NSC

As you are aware, the Director of Central Intelligence annually prepares a list of "Substantive Objectives" for the Intelligence Community which are submitted to the President. These Substantive Objectives are, in turn, used as a basis for the preparation of the family of national intelligence guidance documents used to establish priority requirements and to tailor collection and production emphasis throughout the entire intelligence community.

While this has proven to be an invaluable community management procedure, we feel that its effectiveness and the value of the resulting intelligence to consumers could be significantly improved if there were a closer link between the national intelligence effort and projected national policy. If the Director of Central Intelligence could be provided annual guidance outlining the major national policy objectives for the forthcoming twelve-month period, this link could be established. Such guidance, prepared on a regional basis, could then be used by the Director of Central Intelligence as the policy source for his own Substantive Objectives, thus significantly improving the support of national policy by the intelligence community.

The National Security Council and the Intelligence Committee of the NSC provides a logical mechanism for such guidance to the Director of Central Intelligence. Accordingly, we recommend that the National Security Council consider this proposal at a future deliberation, approve the recommendation, and provide the Intelligence Committee appropriate national policy guidance for forwarding to the Director of Central Intelligence.